



# KAYLA'S PRO TIPS

## 1 Stay Organized

Start a folder on your laptop/desktop that includes pertinent documents required by scholarship organizations including: College acceptance letter, high school transcripts, class schedule, certificate of Indian Blood, etc. This way, when it is time to reapply or apply to a new resource, the supplemental documentation is at your fingertips.

## 3 Identification

Include your name and student ID on all the documentation you submit to different scholarship organizations. Bear in mind scholarship offices manage a tremendous load of paperwork, this will ensure your documents are not lost by accident.

## 5 Apply Early

Do not wait for the deadline to apply. The earlier you apply, the earlier you will receive funding. If you are missing something from your application and apply late, you may miss out on funding all together.

## 7 Do Not Struggle in Silence

If you are struggling, do not do so in silence. College/universities do not want students to fail. There are a million resources available to you at your school and more from the MHA Education Grant Program office. If you need help, reach out to someone.

## 2 Calendar

Make a calendar of deadlines for the scholarships/grants you intend applying to. Revisit this calendar regularly to ensure you are maintaining the requirements set forth by each organization.

## 4 Maintain Good Grades

The MHA Education Grant Program GPA requirement is only 2.0, but to get funding from other organizations, a GPA that is 3.0 or higher will likely result in more funding.

## 6 Be Professional

If you email your application, address the sender, and write a short email to confirm who you are and what exactly you are sending. Include reliable contact information and be sure to check your email/voicemail for correspondence.

## 8 Double-Check

When submitting your application, double check that it is complete before submitting it. Review the requirements for each organization and complete every field of the application. This will prevent delays in processing your application.



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## 9 Reapply

If you are denied funding from an organization, continue to reapply with them if you meet their minimum eligibility requirements. The larger the application pool, the more difficult it is to receive the award, but that does not mean impossible. Do not be discouraged by denials.

## 11 Apply to More Resources

Apply to as many resources as possible. College is expensive by itself; add the cost of living, eating, fuel and other expenses on top, and the cost can become overwhelming. Instead of finding a part-time job, apply for more scholarships! I know many students who are pocketing an annual salary (\$30,000/year or more) AFTER their tuition, books and fees have been paid just by taking the time to apply to as many scholarships/grants as possible. **You can too!**

## 10 Essay

Many scholarship organizations require essays that illustrate who the applicant is, what their goals are and why they need the funding. Instead of writing 10 different essays for 10 different organizations, write one really good essay and tweak it to meet the needs of each organization.

## 12 Money Management

Take a money management course. Your refund is intended to pay for your room and board, food, and gas until the end of the semester. It is not meant to be used to buy new shoes, wine, and dine your significant other or go on a vacation. Learn to save so you aren't struggling at the end of the semester.